

Image

1642



107-206-C-D

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Group Art Unit: 1642
French et al.)
Serial No.: 09/680,121) Examining Attorney: Gary B. Nickol
Filed: 10/4/2000) Date: March 24, 2004
For: PROSTATE CANCER-SPECIFIC) Pasadena, California
MARKER)

LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of February 24, 2004.

Applicant elects category 4 which is claim 63 with traverse.

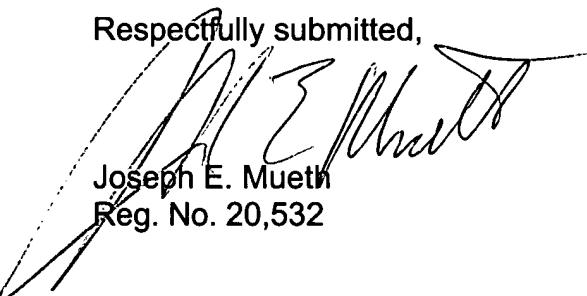
This twenty one (21) way restriction needs to be reconsidered and withdrawn. The requirement that applicant file 20 more patent applications would impose a staggering financial burden on the applicant. The filing, needlessly, of 20 more applications also serves to further overwhelm an already struggling biotech examination operation within the

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

The Examiner is urged to reconsider and reformulate the restriction requirement to a more appropriate number of categories.

Applicant believes there are no fees due with this communication. However, if there are fees due, the Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 13-4892.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph E. Mueth
Reg. No. 20,532

Dated: March 24, 2004

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 24, 2004.


Signature

LAURA VELARDE
Typed or Printed Name of Person
Mailing Paper or Fee